CHWSD

Community Health Worker Collaborative of South Dakota

South Dakota Community Health Worker Titles and Training Programs

What is the definition of a Community Health Worker (CHW)?

A **Community Health Worker (CHW)** is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

American Public Health Association, 2020

What CHW titles are used in South Dakota?

Community Health Worker (CHW)
A CHW is an individual who has **completed some form of formal training** and works under the APHA definition of a CHW.

Certificate-Level CHW
A Certificate-Level CHW is an individual who has **obtained an approved CHW training certificate in South Dakota** and works under the APHA definition of a CHW.

Community Health Representative (CHR)
A CHR is an individual who has completed an **approved CHR training program through Indian Health Service (IHS)** and works under the APHA definition of a CHW and the IHS definition of a CHR.

What is the CHW scope of work in South Dakota?

- **Health system navigation and resource coordination**
- **Health promotion and coaching**
- **Health education** to teach or promote methods and measures that have been proven effective in avoiding illness and/or lessening its effects

What training programs are available and how do they relate to the scope of work?

Certificate-Level CHWs

- **Lake Area Technical College (LATC) CHW Certificate, Diploma, and Associates Degree**
- **Indian Health Service CHR Training**

Individuals providing a service of the CHW scope of work

- **Family Spirit Home Visiting Program**
- **National Diabetes Prevention Program**
- **Better Choices, Better Health® SD**

What do CHWs do?



Certificate-Level CHW

Mary is a Certificate-Level CHW at a primary care clinic. Mary obtained her CHW Certificate from Lake Area Technical College. Mary works under the full scope of work of a CHW. Her organization receives reimbursement for the services Mary provides, as they align with reimbursement policies.





Reimbursement for Providing a CHW Service

Robert works as a dietitian at a local hospital. He is also a lifestyle coach and leads a National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) at the hospital. The hospital is able to be reimbursed for Robert providing the National DPP as a service of CHWs, however, Robert is not a CHW and cannot provide any other CHW services for reimbursement.



Want to learn more about training programs in South Dakota?

To learn more about CHW training programs and titles, visit www.chwsd.org/chw-training-and-scope-of-work/ to view the training program recording: Understanding SD CHW Training Programs and Scope of Work.

www.chwsd.org